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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Michael J. Malanick
Acting Deputy Director for Administration
SUBJECT : Establishment of an Agency Working Group to Study
Release of CIA Information to the Public

1. The Inspector General's report of June 1977, titled THE OFFICIAL RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC, deals with and makes recommendations on a rather wide ranging number of problems related to the release of information to the public. I believe that some of the comments and recommendations contained therein are extremely valid and feel, therefore, that an Agency working group should be formed at once to study this extremely complex problem and make recommendations to the EAG on what actions should be taken.
2. As I view it, the basic objective of this working group should be to:

Develop an overall Agency policy which deals with the release of information to the public and the means by which this policy will be implemented and enforced.

3. In developing this policy, I recommend that the working group carefully address, but in no way be limited to, the following items:
 - a. Determine the feasibility of establishing a centralized group of senior persons from each of the Directorates, NFAC, and the Office of the DCI to review information proposed for release to the public and, if feasible, its location in the Agency's organization.
 - b. Determine the feasibility of developing and implementing a centralized index of all material that has been released to the public.
 - c. Determine what steps should be taken to minimize future "flaps" in the release of information and determine if a "post-mortem" system should be established.

5. As stated earlier, I feel that we should move rapidly with this undertaking and therefore recommend that you approve the establishment of the working group with goals and membership as outlined above.

/s/ Michael J. Malanick

Michael J. Malanick

APPROVED ()

DISAPPROVED ()

John F. Blake
Acting Deputy Director for Central Intelligence

STATINTL

AI/DDA [REDACTED] dc (7 November 1977)

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